Transferable Skills

UCL uses a transferable skills and competency framework to highlight abilities and attributes that underpin effective performance. This approach supports a flexible and inclusive professional approach to career planning. Considering transferable skills can be a starting point in identifying opportunities for job mobility, and in supporting you to recognise and build on your personal strengths. Individuals can develop and refine these transferable skills through working experience and through learning interventions as part of their Personal and Professional Development.

UCL uses the Universal Competency Framework (UCF) to discuss transferable skills. The UCF has been developed for use across different sectors, professions and countries (see Bartram, D. 2002).

DECIDING AND INITIATING ACTION

Making decisions. Taking responsibility. Acting with Confidence. Acting on own initiative. Taking action. Taking calculated risks.

RELATING AND NETWORKING

Building rapport. Networking. Relating across levels. Managing conflict. Using humour.

APPLYING EXPERTISE AND TECHNOLOGY

Applying technical expertise. Building technical expertise. Sharing expertise. Using technology resources. Demonstrating physical and manual skills. Demonstrating cross-functional awareness. Demonstrating spatial awareness.

FORMULATING STRATEGIES AND CONCEPTS

Thinking broadly. Approaching work strategically. Setting and developing strategy. Visioning.

ADAPTING AND RESPONDING TO CHANGE

Adapting. Accepting new ideas. Adapting interpersonal style. Showing cross-cultural awareness. Dealing with ambiguity.

Reference

Bartram, D., 2006. The SHL universal competency framework. Surrey, UK: SHL White Paper.

LEADING AND SUPERVISING

Providing direction and co-ordinating action. Supervising and monitoring behaviour. Coaching. Delegating. Empowering staff. Motivating others. Developing staff. Identifying and recruiting talent.

WORKING WITH PEOPLE

Understanding others. Adapting to the team. Building team spirit. Recognising and rewarding contributions. Listening. Consulting others. Communicating proactively. Showing tolerance and consideration. Showing empathy. Supporting others. Caring for others. Developing and communicating selfknowledge and insight.

ADHERING TO PRINCIPLES AND VALUES

Upholding ethics and values. Acting with integrity. Utilising diversity. Showing social and environmental responsibility.

PERSUADING AND INFLUENCING

Making an impact. Shaping conversations. Appealing to emotions. Promoting ideas. Negotiating and gaining agreement. Dealing with political issues.

PRESENTING AND COMMUNICATING INFORMATION

Speaking fluently. Explaining concepts and opinions. Articulating key points of an argument. Presenting and public speaking. Projecting credibility. Responding to an audience.

WRITING AND REPORTING

Writing correctly. Writing clearly and fluently. Writing in an expressive and engaging style. Targeting communication.

ANALYSING

Analysing and evaluating information. Testing assumptions and investigating. Producing solutions. Making judgements. Demonstrating systems thinking.

LEARNING AND RESEARCHING

Learning quickly. Gathering information. Thinking quickly. Encouraging and supporting organisational learning. Managing knowledge.

CREATING AND INNOVATING

Innovating. Seeking and introducing change.

PLANNING AND ORGANISING

Setting objectives. Planning. Managing time. Managing resources. Monitoring progress.

DEVELOPING RESULTS AND SETTING CUSTOMER EXPECTATIONS

Focusing on customer needs and satisfaction. Setting high standards for quality. Monitoring and maintaining quality. Working systematically. Managing quality processes. Maintaining productivity levels. Driving projects to success.

COPING WITH PRESSURE AND SETBACKS

Coping with pressures. Showing emotional self-control. Balancing work and personal life. Maintaining a positive outlook. Handling criticism.

ACHIEVING PERSONAL WORK GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Achieving objectives. Working energetically and enthusiastically. Pursuing self-development. Demonstrating ambition.

FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS AND PROCEDURES

Following directions. Following procedures. Time keeping and attending. Demonstrating commitment. Showing awareness of safety issues. Complying with legal obligations.

ENTREPRENEURIAL AND COMMERCIAL THINKING

Monitoring markets and competitors. Identifying business opportunities. Demonstrating financial awareness. Controlling costs. Keeping aware of organisational issues.